

From: John Springer
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 4:20pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I oppose any settlement with Microsoft that does not make these provisions:

1. Penalize them for putting other companies out of business by bundling "good enough" software with Windows and Office, thereby destroying existing markets.
2. Prevent them from effectively forcing proprietary standards onto the world by building them into Windows, ignoring standards organizations, and not publishing specifications.

I think Microsoft is being allowed to dominate and control an industry that is as essential today as the telephone is. It is as though AT&T 50 years ago had been allowed to build phone systems that wouldn't let customers talk to anyone using non AT&T equipment.

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Golly - I think it's raining out there.